Daily Report

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Libya

The central bank governor commented on the recent U.S. freeze on the country's financial assets, JANA reported.

Iraq

AL-THAWRAH accused "Israel and Arab and foreign parties" of planning the explosion in the Baghdad Sheraton, INA reported. The government recognized the Commonwealth states, Georgia, and the Baltics, INA reported. Two American businessmen detained for trying to enter the country illegally will be released "very soon," according to Radio Monte Carlo. Baghdad radio broadcast congratulatory messages sent to Saddam by the chiefs of the Republican Guards and the intelligence service. Opposition troops reportedly shot down two government aircraft, the clandestine Voice of Rebellious Iraq disclosed. The clandestine Voice of the People of Kurdistan charged that an explosion "in the intelligence building in Baghdad" killed eight personnel.

Israel

The extent of the autonomy plan to be offered in the next phase of peace talks will "surprise" the Palestinian delegation, Jerusalem radio reported. DAVAR reported details of the foreign minister's position paper for the Moscow multilaterals. The defense minister confirmed that a civil guard will be set up in large settlements in the territories, but said it would be identical in form to similar units functioning inside the Green Line, Tel Aviv radio reported.

Algeria

The Islamic Salvation Front and the National Liberation Front issued statements following the national legislative elections, Algiers radio reported.

Sudan

'Umar al-Bashir's independence day address to the nation was reported by SUNA, which cited him as saying that a "transitional national assembly will be formed in the next few days. An Iraqi military delegation continued its visit, Omdurman radio reported.

Morocco

The foreign minister's statement on "positive" UN decision regarding the Western Sahara was broadcast by Rabat television.

India, Pakistan

The countries exchanged lists of their nuclear facilities, Delhi and Islamabad radios reported. Meanwhile, a Pakistani Foreign Office spokesman said the agreement on the sale of a Chinese 300-megawatt nuclear power plant was a sign of friendship between the country and the PRC, according to Islamabad radio, which also reported an interview on the issue given by the prime minister, who said the country is not and will not manufacture a nuclear bomb.

Afghanistan

Najibollah's speech on the cessation of arms supplies to Afghan combatants was broadcast by Kabul radio.

Algeria

Islamic Front Statement Urges Vigilance, Unity

LD0101224992 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] The Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] said in a statement issued today that the project of the Islamic state chosen by the people is aimed at establishing justice, removing injustice, protecting liberties, and entrenching brotherhood and its requirements among the people. The FIS called on the Algerian people to be cautious and vigilant and to preserve their unity. It also called on all the organizations and personalities concerned with their religion and their homeland to stand by the people.

The statement added that in the face of irresponsible statements and positions that are likely to endanger the peace of society and the unity of the people, the people will not stand idly by. They will confront anyone who attempts to confiscate their will and oppose their choice.

FLN Issues Statement Backing Democratic Course

LD0101231192 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] The National Liberation Front [FLN] party Political Bureau has issued the following statement, which says in part:

In light of the results of the first round of the legislative elections, which took place on 26 December 1991, and after analyzing and assessing them with the secretaries of the provinces, the Political Bureau of the FLN, first, records with satisfaction the enlightenment of the Algerian people that made possible the holding of this electoral (?consultation) under conditions of calm and security, despite the drawbacks, shortcomings, and the numerous recorded excesses.

It records the aspiration of the Algerian people to embark on a deep change of the political system, and the basic transformations in the economic, social, and cultural fields within the framework of the constitution of February 1989.

It recalls that the FLN is eager to respect the will of the people, and it supports the democratic course especially in taking part in the second round of legislative elections. The FLN Political Bureau considers that any endeavor that seeks to halt the democratic course, under whatever pretext, is considered a serious action bearing with it a real threat to the ordinary development of society and the stability of the country.

The Political Bureau, regardless of the recorded results and despite the air of concern and fear that prevailed over some factions of society as a result of extremist (?statements), believes that caution must be exercised, and whims that seek to discard the democratic course should be avoided.

The FLN affirms its conviction that the ideal way to set up a pluralist society lies in the defense of the Constitution, the republican regime and its institutions, individual and collective freedoms, national unity, and the constants of the nation.

The Political Bureau statement also said that the FLN stresses its resolve to continue working to establish the principles and values of November, respect the freedom of the people's choice, and shoulder its mission in democratic practices.

It lauds the efforts of FLN activists, sympathizers, and all the citizens who have shown their attachment to the FLN and its principles, despite the speeches, stabs, and attacks directed against it. The FLN Political Bureau believes that the groups that have won the endorsement of the electors shoulder a great responsibility in administering the change with wisdom and careful consideration. The Political Bureau appeals to all the citizens and professional, social, and trade union associations to enlist in the defense of a stable Algeria, and stand against every attempt at deviation or violence aimed at harming the Constitution. The FLN Political Bureau calls on the activists, supporters, and citizens of both sexes to intensify their efforts and work for the widening of their backing and support for the FLN, and thus make the second round of the election successful.

Parties Comment on Salvation Front Victory

LD3112180991 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 31 Dec 91

[Excerpt] [Announcer] Algeria: The official results of the first round of the legislative elections have been proclaimed. I remind you of the results: the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] confirms its landslide with 188 seats, followed a long way behind by the Socialist Forces Front [FFS] with 25 seats, and the former single party, the National Liberation Front [FLN], with 15 seats. The results are arousing very strong feelings among opponents of the FIS. Anne Dissez :

[Dissez] The campaign has not waited for the official opening on 3 January to begin again. This morning there has been an avalanche of position-taking and proposals, all reflecting great panic and urging in the most incongruous way that there should be no second round, which is a paradox for democrats. Said Saadi [chairman of the Rally for Culture and Democracy] implicitly calls on the army to intervene to save the institutions of the republic. The UGTA [General Union of Algerian Workers] the former single trade union, along with many other associations, including one of the employers' unions, says no to a second round. The Socialist Vanguard Party, the former communist party, takes the same line, although it had already spoken of the first round in terms of the illusion of the ballot box. As for [FFS leader] Ait Ahmed, he is calling for a new start to save democracy and his party is mobilizing for the demonstration due to be held Thursday. [passage omitted]

Islamic Group Urges Jihad Against Elections

LD3112152891 Paris France-Inter Radio Network in French 1400 GMT 31 Dec 91

[Text] An Algerian extremist Islamic group which believes that participation by Muslims in elections means obeying an ungodly regime, is calling the faithful to holy war—jihad—to establish an Islamic state in Algeria. Do not submit to the unjust; fight them all until the final victory of the religion of God, the group urges.

The group takes its inspiration from Mustapha Bouyali, leader of an armed fundamentalist organization killed by Algerian security forces in the eighties.

Appeals Lodged Against First Round of Elections

LD0101160892 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 31 Dec 91

[Text] The Constitutional Council has received 74 appeals against the veracity of the first round of the legislative elections. The National Liberation Front presented 33 appeals, the Liberals presented 11 appeals, the Movement for Democracy in Algeria presented 9 appeals, the Socialist Forces Front presented 7 appeals, and the Islamic Salvation Front presented 1 appeal. [numbers as heard]

Final National People's Assembly Session

LD0101141692 Algiers Radio Algiers Network in Arabic 2200 GMT 30 Dec 91

[Text] The National People's Assembly today ended its last legislative period before the start of the pluralist system. Colleague Fodil Saadedine attended the closing session and sent us the following:

[Saadedine] The National People's Assembly ends the last session of the third legislative period of Algerian parliamentary life since independence. This session was characterized by some fits of temper by some deputies who did not win in the elections. Abdelaziz Belkhadem, current speaker of the National People's Assembly and future deputy of the forthcoming assembly, spoke on the occasion and praised the work that the deputies carried out during the legislative period, which was characterized by important national and international events.

In order to adapt to the requirements of the stage, he said, the National People's Assembly was, through its deputies, the impregnable rampart for the safeguard of stability in Algeria despite the force of the painful blows it received. Belkhadem praised the Algerian people, who speak in all frankness these days and approve and put their trust in their sons. He also wished success to the brothers who will start their parliamentary work in the next few days and called on them to safeguard the unity and dignity of the people. He then announced the official end of the autumn session of the National People's Assembly. In accordance with the internal regulations, the deputies listened to the national anthem and verses from the holy Koran.

As a reminder one should say that this session was attended by a government team, led by Mr. Sid Ahmed Ghozali, the prime minister, and all the ministers.

This was the last session. We hope to meet you in the forthcoming days, God willing.

Egypt

Musa Statement to People's Assembly Committees

NC3112141191 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1035 GMT 31 Dec 91

[Report on statement delivered by Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa to a joint meeting of People's Assembly committees in Cairo on 31 December]

[Text] Cairo, 31 Dec (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has warned of tensions in the Middle East region if there are not rapid developments in the peace process in step with the speed of international events and changes. He discussed current world developments such as European unity, Eurasian developments, and the tensions in the Balkan region.

He said Middle East security arrangements cannot be made without contributions and opinions from Egypt, because it is the most important country in the region. If the Middle East situation must be reorganized, then we must express our opinion on this matter and a general framework of the principles of international legitimacy and others dealing with Middle East security must be defined.

He also asserted that the Damascus Declaration has affirmed political and economic cooperation; it now forms part of the documents governing Arab cooperation within the Arab League.

This came in a statement the foreign minister delivered today before the joint meeting of the People's Assembly committees for foreign relations and Arab affairs, defense, and national security.

The foreign minister said in his statement that the final results of the Damascus Declaration have not been revealed so far because this issue requires deep and careful study to reach like opinions on details, which then can be translated into protocols and practical steps. This will take a long time.

He added that Egypt proposed a general framework of implementation to the Damascus Declaration countries during their last meeting in Cairo, and that the Gulf Cooperation Council summit affirmed that the Damascus Declaration was a part of the political and economic activity of the Gulf states.

Musa clarified that during the Damascus Declaration countries' April meeting, they will evaluate the results of their meetings within the framework of legitimate and joint interests.

The foreign minister discussed the Middle East peace process and said that even if we agree to the principle of peace for peace, it does not mean that the principles of land for peace, security for security, and commitment for commitment can be removed. The entire process is integrated and inter-linked and must be implemented comprehensively as part of the peace process.

The foreign minister affirmed in his statement before the People's Assembly that Israel does not have the right to take a single inch of Syrian territory through any claim, but that there are peace measures that should be agreed upon.

He said Israel started negotiations with a belligerent stand, which actually may be a negotiating stand or a real stand. The coming stages of negotiations will reveal what kind it is. But there are limits to patience. We are observing what is happening very carefully and will not always accept the arrogant Israeli stand.

Musa adds that Egypt hopes the bilateral peace talks will initiate a discussion of details so an understanding can be reached on the land for peace equation, which is a symbol of comprehension and balance within the framework of legitimacy, because the issue has nothing to do with concessions. It is a matter of a comprehensive and just settlement. In addition, the Palestinian right to self-determination is not a slogan, but a major matter which is essential to peace in the Middle East.

At the joint meeting with the People's Assembly committees on foreign relations, Arab affairs, and national security, the foreign minister discussed Arab relations, stressing the need for the Arab world to interact positively with international developments.

He noted that President Husni Mubarak's notion of a Mediterranean club comes within the context of this interaction. The Mediterranean is not just a European lake but a European-Arab-Middle Eastern lake, which makes us think of establishing a Mediterranean club and a general group, as there are subsidiary groups of western Mediterranean countries and some European countries.

Musa said: We have actually begun to speak with certain groups of eastern Mediterranean countries. Last week we met in Rome to study the situation in the eastern Mediterranean. At the end of the meeting between Egypt, Italy, and Greece a joint communique was issued, stressing several points, most important of which was that this group aims to set up a Mediterranean club, which would not be a minor or partial club.

He pointed out that the small tripartite meeting is open to anyone wanting to join in, be it Turkey or any Arab country, and that this group does not seek to compete with any other group but would complement them.

He said: The idea of Israel joining the club was raised at the Rome meeting but it depends on certain conditions. We will not object if the Middle East peace process yields positive results or if it achieves tangible progress but no solution is reached.

On the subject of Egyptian-Iranian relations, 'Amr Musa said: Iran is a fraternal Islamic state and it is only natural that we should have normal relations. If we concede that Iran has its own interests, we must add that we also have our own interests and approaches, and we have a role in the Islamic world. We expect that Iran's moves are based on the fact that Egypt has a long history and political, economic, and cultural influence. When we speak of Arab security, keep in mind that Iran is not an Arab state. Arab security is just that: Arab security in its genuine Arab sense. We engage in discussions and make decisions without intervention from non-Arabs.

He noted that it is illogical to say that the meetings on Arab security arrangements and the Damascus Declaration are against Iran. Iran should take the right course toward the future and understand this rather than embark on an ill-conceived move that could adversely effect relations. We will not accept any misdirected measures that could destabilize the region.

At his meeting with members of the People's Assembly committees, the foreign minister dealt with Egyptian-African relations, particularly Sudan. He said: Sudan is a fraternal country linked to us by historic relations that should continue and grow. Sudan's territorial unity and progress are of concern to us and the Sudanese should be cautious about certain trends. There are many moves in the Horn of Africa and Egypt cannot ignore them because the region is so close.

We are interested in the Horn of Africa. We deeply regret the incidents in Somalia and urge Somalis to realize that their infighting will have negative consequences on Somalia and its people. They should also realize that Egypt is willing to help Somalia but action must begin there and everyone must contribute to reaching an understanding about a certain status. We are ready to cooperate to help Somalia. The same thing applies to Djibouti and we will do everything to guarantee its safety and stability.

'Amr Musa announced that Egypt will soon send a representative mission to Asmara, where a referendum will be held on self-determination in Eritrea.

Musa asserted that Egyptian-Libyan relations are important and that Egypt is interested in seeing that Libya is stable and not threatened and that the Libyan people are achieving their interests.

Referring to the recent Libyan-U.S. crisis, the foreign minister said: We are doing what we can to bring about a solution to this problem and to avoid the use of force and at the same time to ensure respect for international law and legitimacy. He emphasized that terrorism is a

dangerous act but allegations must be investigated to prove the innocence or guilt of the accused.

As for sanctions, he pointed out that this issue is a shadowy one around which Egypt's diplomatic efforts are revolving.

Government Urges Somali Factions To End War

NC0101161592 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1310 GMT 31 Dec 91

[Text] Cairo, 31 Dec (MENA)—Egypt today appealed to the warring Somali factions and fronts in Mogadishu to work toward halting the bloodletting and sparing Somalia the calamities of the civil war which has claimed the lives of thousands of people.

Egypt explained that should this civil war continue, it will increase the sufferings of the fraternal Somali people and obstruct their reconstruction and development march. This was stated today by a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry.

In his statement, the Foreign Ministry spokesman said Egypt appeals to all Somali fronts and factions to resort to reason and give priority to the national interest by working for reconciliation and understanding among all warring factions within the framework of a meeting devoted to finding a peaceful settlement of disputes.

The spokesman reiterate that Egypt is prepared to help in this connection and that it will spare no effort to bring about peace and stability in fraternal Somalia so the Somali people can lead a dignified life.

Egypt appealed to all Arab and African countries to join efforts to achieve this goal and to extend assistance to the Somali people so they can overcome the current crisis and build a better future.

The spokesman said Egypt is closely following events in Somalia, in view of the close ties linking the Egyptians with the fraternal Somali people. He said Egypt is keen to establish stability, peace, and security in that friendly country, which is being torn apart by an armed struggle among the sons of the same homeland.

Financial Protocol Signed With Russia

NC3112205991 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0907 GMT 31 Dec 91

[Text] Cairo, 31 Dec (MENA)—The Egyptian economic delegation headed by Muhsin Shihab, manager of the Egyptian Holding Company for International Trade, returned to Cairo early this morning after a two-week visit to Moscow.

During the visit, the Egyptian delegation discussed the future of trade and economic relations between Egypt and the Russian Federation in view of recent developments.

Mr. Muhsin Shihab said after his return that during the visit a new six-month protocol worth 600 million Egyptian pounds was signed between Egypt and the Russian Federation.

He added that agreement was reached regarding two lists, one for Egyptian goods and the other for Russian goods, and that importation and exportation between the two countries will take place simultaneously.

Mr. Muhsin Shihab pointed out that this protocol supersedes the previous protocol.

Regarding the deficit in the trade balance between the two countries, which amounts to around 200 million accounting pounds Sterling in Egypt's favor, delegation head Muhsin Shihab said it was agreed to discuss this deficit later. He pointed out that this deficit is the result of the exchange of services, not goods.

Mr. Shihab concluded his statements by saying that Russia agreed that to adhere to some of the commitments of the former Soviet Union and the rest of the republics will be committed to the remaining commitments.

IMF Approves Access to $50 Million in Aid

NC0101171092 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1602 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] The IMF has agreed that Egypt can immediately withdraw its second installment or $50 million of the $400 million the IMF has allocated to help reform the Egyptian economy's financial structure.

Disclosing this today, Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi noted that this agreement comes after the IMF board of directors decided to continue to support Egypt's efforts to implement its successful economic reform program.

Sidqi said that an IMF delegation visited Cairo in October to follow up the ongoing economic measures in Egypt and submitted its assessment of the economic reform program to the IMF board of directors, asking that the IMF continue to support the program.

Sidqi pointed out that the IMF's positive assessment of Egypt's implementation of its reform program will entail dropping the second installment debts, which amount to 15 percent of the total.

Musa Comments on EC's 'Active' Role in Peace

NC3112210291 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1440 GMT 31 Dec 91

[Text] Cairo, 31 Dec (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has reiterated that Egypt wants the EC states to play an active role in pushing the Middle East peace process forward and finding a just solution to the Palestinian problem, particularly since peace and security in the Middle East and Europe are closely linked.

Musa made the statement today after he met visiting Irish Parliament Chairman Tras Honan and the delegation accompanying him.

Musa praised the solid ties linking Egypt and Ireland.

For his part, the Irish parliament chairman said that his country is eager to consolidate relations with Egypt in different fields.

Dr. Muhammad 'Abdallah, chairman of the People's Assembly's foreign relations committee, attended the meeting and said that President Mubarak's proposal to the European Parliament in November to set up a grouping embracing the Mediterranean states was discussed.

Libya

Central Bank Governor on U.S. Assets Freeze

LD0101121592 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0720 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, 1 Jan (JANA)—On 26 December 1991, the American Administration issued a presidential decree freezing Libyan assets in American banks and financial institutions. The decree prohibits all kinds of establishments from using their deposits in American dollars to fulfill their financial and commercial obligations. [sentence as received] The decree also obligates all American banks to freeze all assets and payments passing through them from all banks and sources regardless of their origin or direction or the beneficiary, as long as these assets and payments relate directly or indirectly to Libyan interests or establishments, although the dollar is the main currency for reserves in the world on which the international payment system depends in settling international trade obligations, as well as capital movement and the flow of international investments for the various purposes of development and international economic activity. This is in violation of the provisions of the constitutive convention of the IMF, particularly Article 1 of that convention; Article 6, paragraph 3; and Article 8 paragraphs 2(a) and 3.

The decree violates the purposes of the IMF convention and of the commitments of its members to this convention, which prohibits any member state from imposing any economic sanctions on another member for political motives and reasons. The convention provides for the removal of all restrictions on currency exchanges among member states with a view to facilitating the circulation of monies and free international trade and to not obstructing development.

The Libyan Central Bank governor stressed that the effects of the American decree will not be confined to damaging Libyan vital economic interests, but also will affect the stability of the international financial system as a whole. And, as the United States has made the dollar a free reserve currency for fulfilling international financial obligations, this is a serious precedent that will lead to imbalances in the movement of international trade. It also will expose international investments to great hazards and shake confidence in the fulfillment of all forms of financial obligations to states and individuals, inflict burdensome losses on them at a time when the whole world is passing through suffocating economic conditions, which it tries to avoid through the adoption of principles of an international system aiming at freeing visible trade among peoples and removing obstructions in capital movement and supporting development plans and projects in the various states. It also will aggravate the disappointment of the international community, which is trying hard to get out of the international economic crisis by activating the movement of trade and by lifting restrictions from trade in order to reach comprehensive confidence.

The American decision will make Libya unable to fulfill its commitments to international companies which are executing important contracts in the field of economic and social development in Libya, and it is expected that this decision will have bad consequences for the sums due to foreign workers who are participating with the Libyans in the various productive and service activities.

The Libyan Central Bank governor stressed that Libya has an active and effective role in supporting regional and international development institutions, and it offers support and economic and technical aid to many of the poor countries in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. As a result of the American decision, Libya will not be able to use its foreign currency reserves to pay its contributions to these institutions or offer the economic aid needed by those states.

A unilateral judgment before investigations are completed is a prejudgment, because this decision is predicated on a condemnation of Libya before the judges issue their verdict in the Pan Am case. It also is based on deliberate distortion which aims to harm Libya, the only country to go with its external disputes to the International Court of Justice to settle this case. And no doubt, the International Court of Justice will silence them and burn the cards they are playing with.

The issuing of a unilateral verdict and the U.S. imposition of sanctions on Libya will not make the judges support it, on the premise that the American measures are in violation of the IMF constitutive convention, particularly Article 1 of that convention, as well as Articles 3, 6, and 8. All the judges will have to do is to fold the files and close the case because it has been prejudged.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives Ayatollah Khalkhali

LD0101153292 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1445 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, 1 Jan (JANA)—Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the revolution, received here this morning Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali, member of the

Foreign Relations Committee of the Iranian Majles and his accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, the Iranian delegation affirmed the support of the people and revolution of Iran for the people of the Great Jamahiriyah in facing the American threats. It also affirmed Iran's support for the stance of the Great Jamahiriyah toward the problem of the crash of the Pan Am aircraft and its efforts to solve that problem with international legal ways.

It is worth mentioning that Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali is paying a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah these days in order to declare the stance and solidarity of the people and revolution of Iran with Libya and its revolutionary leadership in the face of the American threats and allegations.

Solidarity Message Received From Chad's Deby

LD0101170692 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1630 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Tripoli, 1 Jan (JANA)—The brother leader of the revolution has received brother Hassan Fadoul Kittir, special envoy of the Chadian president, minister of state and director of Chadian President Idriss Deby's office. During the meeting, the Chadian minister conveyed a written message to the brother leader of the revolution from President Idriss Deby which affirmed the stance and solidarity of the Chadian Government and people with their brothers the Libyan Arab people in facing the challenges.

Joint Niger Communique Issued in Tripoli

LD3112225691 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 31 Dec 91

[Text] An Arab Libyan-Niger joint communique was issued in Tripoli this evening following the visit of the prime minister of Niger to the Great Jamahiriyah. It said inter alia: During the visit significant bilateral talks were held in which an atmosphere of amity and fraternity prevailed. They dealt with a number of issues at bilateral, African, and international levels. The two sides expressed their satisfaction with the continuous development in their firm relations and cooperation. They reaffirmed their resolve to move to a new phase which realizes a special character of the relations of cooperation in a manner that serves the expectations of the two fraternal peoples.

In this regard the Arab Libyan-Niger People's Higher Joint Commission has been asked to convene its meeting at the earliest time possible to lay down the executive formulae of what has been agreed upon in the fields of bilateral cooperation between the two countries. Regarding the regrettable incident which led to the crash of the Pan-Am airliner—Flight No. 103—over Lockerbie, Scotland, the two sides reaffirmed that their principled and firm stance is against terrorism in all its forms. The two sides denounced the method of using force and the threat to use it and the imposition of economic sanctions in relations among states. They called for adherence to the UN Charter and respect for international law. The Niger side praised the wisdom and sound approach by the Great Jamahiriyah vis-a-vis the American and British allegations. The Niger side reaffirmed its full support for the Great Jamahiriyah.

JANA Regards Position of Algeria's Bendjedid

LD3112231791 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1105 GMT 31 Dec 91

[Text] Algiers, 30 Dec (JANA)—Political observers in Algeria believe that the [Islamic] Salvation Front's victory in the first round of the Algerian legislative elections is bound to put President Chadli Bendjedid in the position of having to face a difficult coexistence with the followers of that front.

In a manner that prompts confusion, observers ask about the future of political life in Algeria. President Bendjedid previously pointed out this issue when, at a news conference last Tuesday, he said he was prepared for that coexistence and that he would implement the Constitution. It is worth noting that the Algerian Constitution gives the president extensive powers that would enable him to control the parliament. The president can also rely on the Army which is demonstrating caution about the Salvation Front. In addition to the appointment of civilian and military officials and issuing decrees, the Algerian Constitution stipulates that defense and foreign affairs issues are within the jurisdiction of the president alone. Furthermore, the Algerian Constitution does not oblige the president to select a prime minister from among the members of parliament, and he can dissolve the parliament.

Morocco

Filali Views 'Positive' UN Move on Sahara

LD0101220492 Rabat RTM Television Network in Arabic 2030 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Statement by Abdellatif Filali, minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, to national television and radio on 1 January in response to UN Security Council's unanimous decision to adopt a resolution endorsing the UN secretary general's report on the Western Sahara referendum plan—recorded]

[Text] What is called the problem of the Western Sahara is an old problem, unfortunately, but since Morocco made a request for a referendum in the southern regions [Western Sahara] there have been intensive contacts with Mr. Perez de Cuellar, the outgoing secretary general. As everybody knows, the latter made his own proposals regarding peaceful solutions to this problem, including the holding of a referendum.

Naturally, since the start of this UN action, particularly when Perez de Cuellar put forward his proposals in

August 1988 in Geneva, I then made a statement to Moroccan television in which I outlined Morocco's firm stands, namely the acceptance in principle of these proposals. Naturally, however, everything depends on the details and the negotiations in terms of the stages and developments of this UN process. Naturally, Morocco's desire has always been that this referendum should be honest and be held as soon as possible. We had certainly wished to have the referendum before the end of the last year, in other words in November or December.

Unfortunately, after the resolution was adopted at the start of last year, the United Nations was unable, for numerous reasons, including financial and human reasons, to accomplish its work at the right time, particularly with regard to the committee in charge of determining the identity of the Sahraouis. Naturally, Morocco is not responsible for this situation. On the contrary, we expressed our regret for this delay and this new situation. However and despite all this, we always dealt with the secretary general and his personal envoy and with all those who have a role in this issue, be they military or civilian. We always dealt with them with good intentions and with a genuine desire to see them carry out their work as soon as possible. But as everybody knows, there is a fundamental problem, namely, who is Sahraoui and who will take part in this referendum. In our view, anybody whose origins are from the region has that right. Anybody who through his origins, history, and who comes from the Saharan regions and is considered Sahraoui, has the right to self-determination and to express his view on this referendum.

Morocco's enemies do not see things that way, and this is understandable—because in our view they do not represent anything. When we accepted that what was done by the Spanish in 1974 was a principle and we accepted the principle of determining people's identity, it does not mean that we will limit ourselves to the list that exists at the United Nations. On the contrary, from the very beginning we affirmed repeatedly that Morocco's position is not the position taken by the Spanish in 1974.

There are also the UN documents after the Green March and the visit by what is known as the (?Akay) Committee, and it became clear that there was a fundamental problem concerning people who had left the region before 1975 because of colonialism since these people fled from their homes and left their families.

This was the fundamental problem in fact and it obstructed the work of the committee in charge of identities. Therefore, and after contacts were made and clarifications were given to the secretary general and to the people in charge, including his former personal envoy and also the UN legal adviser, these people considered Morocco's position as sound. This is the essence of the recent proposals the secretary general made in his latest report. Everybody knows the maneuvers the secretary general's report faced, because the report took into account some of Morocco's basic demands. We do not think that this report completely reflects our viewpoint but it was our duty, especially in these difficult circumstances, to show and give sufficient proof of our good intentions and of our serious response to the work done by the secretary general and the United Nations about this problem. Therefore, we expressed our reservations about some things in this report, but despite this it became clear to us that it had opened the door to a new situation and it had taken into consideration legitimate rights and principles with regard to the identity of the people.

In fact, the question is: What does the other side want? And what do those who support them from behind want. We noticed in particular that inside the United Nations and the Security Council some parties were adding and applying pressure this report from being endorsed. As everybody knows, this includes the OAU secretary general. When Morocco was always saying that it would never accept the intervention of the OAU in this problem, it was first for a well-known reason: namely the presence of the mercenaries [reference to Polisario—the Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia El Hamra and Rio de Oro] as a state inside the OAU. This means that in principle the OAU held the referendum and decided the fate of the Sahraoui people. Second, the statement made by the [OAU] secretary general last week and put forward to the president of the Security Council demonstrates the ill intentions of that person. We have known him and his stands for a long time, since he used to represent his country, Tanzania, at the United Nations. Therefore, we were not surprised by this stand; on the contrary, it has shown us and confirmed to us again that no presence of the OAU is possible in the referendum when the date to hold it is decided upon.

This is to sum up the current situation: We believe that what has happened at the United Nations and what happened yesterday at the Security Council is in itself a positive thing, despite our reservations about some points in this report. We also consider that it also constitutes a defeat and isolation for those who claim to represent the Sahraoui people—I mean by this the mercenaries of the Polisario and this group's friends.

Sudan

Al-Bashir on Transitional Assembly, Foreign Ties

EA0101222592 Khartoum SUNA in English 1615 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Abu Hamad, Northern State, 1 January (SUNA)—A transitional national assembly will be formed in the next few days to take up the legislative task in the Sudan, declared General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the RCC [Revolution Command Council]. Speaking in a nationwide independence day speech, Gen. Bashir Wednesday [1 January] added that the assembly would assume the legislative powers of proposing and passing legislations, control all orders, laws and measures issued by the chairman of the RCC and ministers, and endorse [word indistinct]. He explained

that he had signed the fifth constitutional decree on the setting up of the assembly Tuesday [31 December]. Gen. al-Bashir, in his broadcast speech which he delivered from Abu Hamad in the northern state where this year's 36th independence anniversary celebration were held, said the assembly would be a consultative body that enriches a system of objective dialogue and enhances power sharing and that is free of the (?futile activities) of the past parliament (?and) is designed to set a good example for a future elected national assembly, he added. The implementation of the Islamic shari'ah obliges the state to resort to shura (consultation) and to broaden the base of particiçation in the national work, the RCC chairman said.

Gen. al-Bashir said the war in south Sudan constituted the main obstacle which was the cause of almost all other problems facing the Sudan. The revolution's government, he went on, would continue pursuing its peace efforts and would not be distracted this [word indistinct] by the splits and dissent within the rebellion. There is a need to concentrate on development of the southern states as an approach for restoring peace there, he said. Gen. al-Bashir, in pursuance of this objective, has declared formation of the Peace and Development Foundation. The duties of this new body will include (?dissemination) of a spirit of brotherhood and existence, highlighting the effect of the cost and the efforts to [word indistinct] them, coordination of plans, programmes and efforts for development rehabilitation services and relief, and mustering domestic resources, and mobilising all Sudanese for donation and effective participation in reconstruction of the south, al-Bashir explained. [sentence as received] Al-Bashir has noted that the independence celebrations coincided with the first anniversary of Islamic shari'ah laws application in Sudan, which he said had freed the country from all un-Islamic practices and established a community of virtue and justice. Meanwhile, the RCC chairman praised the Algerian government's wisdom of disregarding calls for undemocratic measures and holding general elections in the country to allow the Algerians [to] exercise their freedom of choice. He went on to say that the Sudan is with Arab integration and unity, pointing to the unionist steps taken by Sudan and Libya. We are supporting our brothers in the Libyan Jamahiriyah in the face of the hostile campaign being waged against them. Gen. al-Bashir has reiterated his demand for lifting economic sanctions on Iraq, (?arguing) that the reasons for the sanctions have now been removed. He has stated that the Sudan now enjoys excellent relations with neighbouring Ethiopia, Eritrea, Chad, Zaire and Uganda, and with Arab (?Islamic) states especially Libya, Iraq, Yemen, Jordan, Indonesia, Pakistan, Malaysia and Iran. The recent visit by Iran's President Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani has reflected the firm ties and the inevitability of coordination between the Sudan and Iran, al-Bashir said.

Khalifah Confers With Iraqi Delegation

EA0101121092 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 31 Dec 91

[Text] Colonel Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, RCC [Revolutionary Command Council] member and acting chairman of the Political Committee, met this morning at his office in the People's Hall the visiting Iraqi delegation led by General Iyad Futayyih al-Rawi, chief of the Iraqi Armed Forces General Staff.

At the meeting, the developing relations between Sudan and Iraq and the heroic stands of the people in confronting the forces of arrogance were discussed. The Iraqi delegation praised the principled and [word indistinct] stand of the leaders and people of Sudan in supporting and backing their brothers in Iraq.

Al-Bashir Reshuffles Provincial Commissioners

EA3112221091 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 29 Dec 91

[Text] Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, chairman of the Revolution Command Council and the Ministerial Council, has issued a decree dismissing Ahmad Muhammad al-Hasan, commissioner in the ministerial leadership [as heard]; Ibrahim Yusuf Alqam, commissioner in the ministerial leadership; and 'Abdallah Adam Faris from his post as commissioner of Wadi Halfa Province. His excellency has also issued a decree appointing Ibrahim Ali Mahjub as commissioner of Wadi Halfa Province; Muhammad Hamad al-Nil Muhammad Babikr as Merowe's provincial commissioner; Colonel Ahmad Muhammad al-Hasan as Barber's provincial commissioner; 'Abdallah Adam Faris as East Nile provincial commissioner; and Ibrahim Yusuf Alqam as Omdurman's provincial commissioner.

Tunisia

'Arafat, Ben Ali Discuss Peace Negotiations

LD0101191992 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali reiterated to Mr. Yasir 'Arafat his and the Tunisian people's congratulations on the anniversary of the start of the glorious Palestinian revolution. He affirmed to him Tunisia's permanent stance by the side of the fraternal Palestinian people in their struggle to recover their legitimate national rights. This took place during a meeting between the Head of State and the Palestinian president in Carthage Palace this morning. The meeting was attended by Mohamed El Jeri, minister director of the President's Office and Mr. Hakam Bal'awi, member of the Central Committee of the Fatah Movement.

After the meeting, Yasir 'Arafat stated that he was eager to visit at the beginning of this new year—after visiting the Tunisian and Palestinian martyrs in Hammam Sham—to his brother President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali

so as to convey to him the greetings of the Palestinian people and the sons of the intifadah to the Tunisian president, government, and people.

He added that the meeting was an opportunity to discuss what could be done before the Arab delegation's move in a few days to start the bilateral talks. He hoped to arrive this time at overcoming the difficulties made by Israel aimed at hampering the peace efforts through its actions inside the occupied territories. These actions consist of seizing land and houses, committing crimes against the Islamic and Christian sanctities, and unleashing armed settlers against the sons of the Palestinian people. Yasir 'Arafat said that the Palestinian inclination for peace does not mean that this stems from a position of weakness or that of giving up any Arab or Palestinian right.

Ben Ali Views Internal Issues, Palestinians

LD3112214891

[Editorial Report] Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic at 1005 GMT on 31 December broadcasts a 15-minute recorded address to the nation by President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali on 31 December. Speaking in the Chamber of Deputies on the occasion of the conclusion of debates on the 1992 general budget, the president emphasizes the good performance of the government in the last year in various domains of public life. The country has been engaged in a comprehensive reform process to strengthen the economic structure, promote services in education and health, and offer assistance to the needy and protect consumers, he says. Importance is attached to grassroots, hence the direct contacts held with the people, by way of visits to provinces. The motto is: dialogue, clarity, and transparence.

The president says that the information sector should be promoted to allow it to inform the people in all freedom. Ben Ali says his government has been keen to guarantee the freedom of expression for all, away from any pressure. He promises that the electoral system in legislative elections will be reviewed in the coming year, in consultation with the political parties, and measures will be taken to ensure that the state bears the expenses of electoral campaigns in legislatives. He lauds the record in protecting human rights in the country.

The president then stresses the interest the governnent attaches to the conditions of the young and women. He promises an ambitious plan to further improve the help offered to the young in the domain of employment and culture. Women occupy a distinguished place in our country, and they have secured great social gains. The president promises to set up a working team to look into further consolidating these gains of women, "without any clash with our Islamic and Arab identity."

The president then says: "Just as democracy requires everyone to be committed to respect the law, development requires commitment to work and effort, as there is no development without serious work. The success of our march in various domains is the guarantee for our country to accede to the front ranks among countries. It is a matter that depends on the effort we exert, and on our seriousness in all that we do. It also depends on how best this effort accords with scientific, intellectual and technical work. With lofty ethics and good behavior the picture of the country is completed, and its prestige abroad secured.

"It is not difficult to realize this objective," he goes on, "as all our civilized and national values make us worthy of arriving at such a day, just as they made worthy of it in the past. This is, today, more urgent, at a time when distances have become short, and contact and relationships have intensified. This is also at a time when our relations with brothers and friends are marked by full clarity and respect, and when we are building with our brothers in the Arab Maghreb a new entity which, we hope, will be witnessing a strong impetus soon, in a way that realizes the aspirations of our peoples, and secures impregnability for our states.

"While we are following with interest what is happening in Algeria, we cannot but hope that this situation develops in a way that serves the interest of this fraternal country, and the continuation of the construction of the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU). Our country is exerting all effort to consolidate this entity, and to strengthen its relations with the states of south-western Europe, in the framework of what is known today as the 5+5 summit (AMU and Italy, France, Spain, Portugal, Greece). We hope this will be a prelude for a larger cooperation between the AMU and the EEC, and an entrance to the resumption of an Arab-European dialogue.

"We are eager to tackle all the problems that occur in the region on the basis of international legality and dialogue. It is in the framework that our efforts come in order to arrive at a peaceful settlement of the dispute between the Jamahiriyah and some western states. Likewise, proceeding from support to right, and attachment to international legality and peaceful solutions, we have supported the Palestinian cause, and we still do. We were present on the side of our Palestinian brothers at the Madrid peace talks, we will be on their side in all the rounds of the coming talks, and with all efforts benefitting the cause of peace, and guaranteeing the recovery of the Palestinian rights, whether these efforts be bilateral or multilateral. We hope that all sides interested in this problem, especially the states sponsoring the peace negotiations, appreciate the good disposition of the Palestinians to reach understanding. We also hope that these negotiations will lead soon to the prevailing of right and the realization of peace with the settlement of the injutice of the 20th century".

President Ben Ali then returns to domestic matters. He pays tribute to Tunisian past reformers and leaders, and promises a quick improvement in the conditions of the national liberation war veterans. He again points

out the good performance of the regime, despite "modest means," praising the self-reliance of Tunisians. He adds: " Our country has enough constituents and values to be able to choose its own line, in all distinction and courage. This affirms the continuity of the success of its choice. The usefulness of balanced behavior and calm change aimed at reform and progress has been proven, and God has protected the country against sweeping, disintegrating changes. We have been able to establish a civil, democratic, balanced, and sound society that shuns violence, extremism and intellectual tyranny under any slogans. "The spiritual cohesiveness, the consensus on fateful issues and the fact that the interest of the homeland comes first are the source of the strength of our country and its people".

The president then promises that the overall reforms of his regime will continue, and material and moral gains of all will be promoted. He concludes by praising cooperation between the executive and legislative authorities in the country, and thanks deputies for their good work. He wishes them and the people happy new year.

Kuwait

Defense Minister on GCC Military Coordination

LD3112184991 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0805 GMT 31 Dec 91

[Text] Kuwait, 31 Dec, KUNA—In a press statement published here today, Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh 'Ali Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah said: The setting up of a unified Gulf army requires specific and serious studies. In his statement to SAWT AL-KUWAYT, he added: Setting up an army of 100,000 is not an easy matter. Omani Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id proposed the idea and it was submitted to the 12th [Gulf Cooperation Council—GCC] summit conference which was held in Kuwait recently. Gulf leaders agreed to refer the subject to specialist committees for further study.

The defense minister stressed: Defense cooperation among the GCC states already exists and it will continue for the better. He added: Despite that we must persist with effective coordination among the GCC states, particularly in view of the crisis through which Kuwait and the Gulf region as a whole has been.

He announced that Kuwait is about to sign a defense agreement with Britain but the date has not been decided yet. He added that regarding the purchase of new weapons, Kuwait is trying to acquire technologically advanced weapons which require little human resources. Meanwhile, he pointed out that there is no plan now for signing new deals. However, he stressed that the political leadership headed by the supreme commander of the armed forces, his highness the amir of Kuwait, and the heir apparent and prime minister, take great interest in and always support the Kuwaiti armed forces regarding all their needs.

Qatar

Minister on Damascus Declaration, Arab Ties

JN0201112492 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0935 GMT 2 Jan 92

[Text] Cairo, 2 Jan (WAKH)—Qatari Foreign Minister Mubarak 'Ali al-Khatir has said that the parties to the Damascus Declaration are continuing their endeavors and consultations to implement the declaration. Noting that the consultations have already made good progress, the minister voiced optimism about the next meeting, scheduled in Doha in April. He said dialogue is the best way to put the declaration into effect.

Speaking to the Egyptian magazine AKHIR SA'AH, the Qatari foreign minister said the Gulf states' interest with their own issues was not, and will not, be at the expense of Arab and Islamic issues, especially the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in particular and Arab rights in general. These issues have precedence in the Gulf states' list of priorities, he said. He explained that the participation of the secretary general of the Gulf Cooperation Council in the Madrid talks is concrete evidence of the Gulf's concern about fateful Arab issues.

Al-Khatir said the participation of the Gulf states in the Madrid negotiations added to the strength of the Arab negotiator and rendered false all Israeli attempts to cast doubt on the seriousness of the Arabs and their desire for peace based on justice and restoration of the legitimate rights.

The Qatari foreign minister stressed that the establishment of normal Gulf relations with Iraq or the countries that supported the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait is not envisioned. Returning things to their normal state will take some time, he said.

Asked about the role of the Arab League at the current stage, he said that the League is now facing a tough mission with the existence of a major Arab rift. However, he stressed confidence that the Arab League and its Secretary General 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid would be able to overcome these difficulties. But, he said, the League will not be able to carry its desired message on its own; it needs effective Arab cooperation, represented by all Arab countries meeting their obligations in full and adhering to the League's charter and objectives.

State Recognizes Commonwealth of Independent States

JN0101182792 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1635 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Jan (INA)—The Republic of Iraq has announced its official recognition of the Russian Federation Republic and the republics of the Commonwealth of Independent States on the basis of its complete respect for the will of states and peoples and their right to free choices.

This recognition came in a statement issued by the Government of the Republic of Iraq. The following is the text of the statement:

Statement by the Government of the Republic of Iraq.

The Government of the Republic of Iraq has followed with great interest the events that have taken place in the former Soviet Union, events which resulted in an official announcement of the dissolution of that union and the setting up of independent, sovereign states.

In view of the depth of the relations existing between Iraq and the former Soviet Union, the historic ties of friendship between the people of Iraq and the peoples of the states which have declared their independence, and in order to maintain and to improve these relations and ties in the service of mutual interests, the Republic of Iraq, on the basis of its complete respect for the will of states and peoples and their right to free choices, announces its official recognition of:

1. The Russian Federation
2. Ukraine
3. Belarus
4. Kazakhstan
5. Azerbaijan
6. Kyrgyzstan
7. Uzbekistan
8. Tajikistan
9. Turkmenia
10. Armenia
11. Moldova

In welcoming these states to the international community and expressing its readiness to cooperate with the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Government of the Republic of Iraq hopes that this commonwealth and its member states will make a positive contribution to strengthening the foundations for a just peace in the world based on equality among states and peoples, to encouraging cooperation among them on the basis of common interests and mutual respect for the independence and sovereignty of states, and to rejecting the threat of the use of force, hegemony, and control over the fate of any people by stronger states, be it in the field of politics, the economy, or any other area.

On this occasion, Iraq hopes that these states which have declared their sovereignty and independence from the former Soviet Union will contribute to the establishment of new international relations based on the principles of peaceful coexistence, fruitful economic cooperation, and bridging the gap between rich and poor states for the welfare and good of all.

Recognizes Baltic Republics, Georgia

JN0101175092 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1645 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Jan (INA)—From the premise of Iraq's belief in the right and freedom of people to choose the course they wish to adopt and the way they wish to express themselves, the Republic of Iraq announces its official recognition of the three Baltic republics and the Republic of Georgia.

This came in a statement issued by the Government of the Republic of Iraq. The following is the official text of the Iraqi statement:

Statement by the Republic of Iraq:

In view of the proclamation by the three Baltic Republics of Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania of their complete independence from the former Soviet Union; in view of the proclamation by the Republic of Georgia of its independence; and based on the premise of Iraq's belief in the right of people to choose the course they wish to adopt and the way they wish to express themselves, the Republic of Iraq announces that it officially recognizes these republics. While welcoming these countries into the international community, Iraq looks forward to constructive and fruitful cooperation with them on the basis of mutual respect and to their joint contribution to the establishment of a just peace in the world and equal and positive relations among countries and peoples.

Baghdad To Release 2 U.S. Businessmen 'Soon'

JN0201111492 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1103 GMT 2 Jan 92

[Text] The Iraqi authorities have changed their minds about taking legal action against two U.S. businessmen charged with illegal entry into Iraq. This has been reported by foreign dipomatic sources in Baghdad. According to the sources, the two Americans, who have been held in a Baghdad prison for a month, will be released very soon.

Paper Accuses Israel, Others of Sheraton Explosion

JN0101100692 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0920 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Baghdad, 1 Jan (INA)—The newspaper AL-THAWRAH has accused Israel and Arab and foreign parties of planning the explosion that occurred at the Sheraton Hotel in .he center of Baghdad the night before last.

In an article today, AL-THAWRAH says: Those behind the explosion have connections and ties that go beyond our borders—east, west, and south of our country, in Egypt, and across the oceans as far as Columbus' destination.

The paper recalls the Zionists' assassination of UN envoy Count Bernadotte. It points to the crushing of a UN car in the Sheraton explosion, saying: It seems that the Zionists could be Arabs because this movement is no longer monopolized by the Jews.

AL-THAWRAH continues: The Zionists and the reactionaries in some Arab countries are proving again that the Gulf war is not yet over, and that the aggressive war is continuing in various forms, where hands have joined those who pounded Baghdad for a month and a half.

The paper emphasizes: The Sheraton explosion has exposed the falsity of the allegations and slogans of our people's enemies who make hypocritical claims about democratic change, human rights, and the objectives of our Kurdish people in Iraq.

The paper urges the people of Iraq to confront the new forms of the war being launched against their country by unleashing their energies, forces, and progressive elements, and by achieving cohesion within a national unity based on democracy, intellectual and political variety, religious and national brotherhood, and on everything that achieves prosperity in Iraq.

Opposition Figure Says Egypt, Syria Oppose Saddam

NC3112162791 (Clandestine) Voice of the Iraqi People in Arabic 1500 GMT 31 Dec 91

[Text] Muhammad Baqir al-Hakim, head of the Supreme Assembly of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq, has said that Egypt has joined other Arab countries that are determined to back the Iraqi opposition plan to overthrow the regime of the defeated tyrant Saddam Husayn. At a news conference in Tehran (?yesterday), he announced a plan to topple the defeated tyrant. He said that he discussed the plan with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad during his recent visit to Damascus and obtained approval for the plan. He pointed out that he wants to discuss the plan with Turkey, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Iran. Observers view this as a new development in the Iraqi opposition's course.

Al-Hakim said that the new plan basically hinges on cooperation [words indistinct] and that he recently contacted senior officers in Iraq, who promised to join any popular uprising [words indistinct]. Al-Hakim expects that in six months at the most [words indistinct] in the interest of the Iraqi resistance.

Columnist Criticizes Plan To Topple Regime

JN3112132191 Baghdad AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 29 Dec 91 p 8

["The Final Word" column by Hamid Sa'id]

[Text] Without shame or cover-ups, one who has been rejected by our great people says that a plan has been prepared by Tehran and Riyadh under U.S. sponsorship to topple the Iraqi regime.

That is it, then. Riyadh and Tehran are preparing a plan sponsored by the United States. Hafiz al-Asad's share in the project is to transform Damascus into a place to gather the scum in order to issue statements from there.

Here we should ask: What do the Iraqis have to do with a plan being prepared in Tehran and Riyadh and sponsored by the United States? Since when have the Iraqis been taking orders from the agents, enemies, and henchmen? What plans, prepared in the ravens' nests abroad, have an impact on the land of Mesopotamia?

The Iraqi regime is an Iraqi affair. Our great and experienced people know what they want and what they do not want. Our people have enough old and new history and experience with strangers and agents which prevent them from substituting the darkness of traitors for the light of their patriotism.

We should also ask: What is the fate of all the regimes imposed on peoples by the spears of foreigners, their ideologies, or the schemes of their intelligence organs? In what state of subjugation and humiliation have the nations which were ruled by the foreigner and his actions lived?

Again, who are the planners of this project? They are the rulers of Tehran, Riyadh, and Damascus. Who is sponsoring this plan? They are the White House murderers. I do not think the matter needs any comment.

I do not say that they do not know the Iraqi people or their relationship with their revolution and their struggling and brave leader, Saddam Husayn. I do not say that they do not know the Iraqis' contempt and hatred for them. They know all this. And because of this knowledge and the rancor it creates in their sick souls, they are aiming to harm the human being in Iraq who fought them and remained steadfast against their plans, thus humiliating them and exposing their cards.

They want to destroy the willpower of the Iraqi and his vigor, which became a symbol for all the free peoples of the world and a danger which threatens them and disturbs their sleep.

How miserable, lowly, and small they are.

How miserable their plans are.

Iraq will continue to be proud of its truthful sons, its great revolution, and its humane leader.

Opposition Claims To Kill 300 Government Soldiers

NC0101153492 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1422 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Fight them and God will punish them by your hands. In truth spoke the Almighty. [Koranic verse] O sons of our rebellious people; O men of the blessed popular uprising of Sha'ban; O defenders of the sanctities of our homeland in the north and south; we bring to you the good news which delights the faithful and kindles rancor in the hearts of the spiteful 'Aflaqites. We bring to

you news of the great victory achieved by your proud sons against the defeated forces of Saddam during the ferocious battle which our heroic mujahidin recently waged against Saddam's 47th Infantry Brigade of the so-called al-Miqdad forces command of the collapsed 11th Division.

Under concentrated artillery and air cover provided by the failing 'Aflaqite planes, this brigade tried to launch a multipronged attack against the area of (al-Masabb), in an attempt to enter the [word indistinct] area. Our brave revolutionaries succeeded, however, in containing this foiled attempt thanks to their knowledge of the area's geography and their marshland combat experience.

The revolutionaries launched a surprise attack against the 'Aflaqites and engaged them in a battle which lasted over 11 hours. The aforementioned brigade was 100-percent destroyed and the 'Aflaqites sustained the following losses:

First, more than 300 members of the aforementioned brigade, including seven officers whose bodies were left on the battlefield, were killed;

Second, the brigade commander, Staff Lieutenant Colonel (?'Adil), was killed;

Third, two helicopters were shot down; and

Fourth, 40 (?reconnaissance) boats with their weapons were captured.

As usual, and after the defeat of his troops by our revolutionaries, the criminal Saddam executed a number of his military commanders, in addition to [words indistinct] to prove to our people and the world his well-known [words indistinct] and the falsity of his claims that the Army and its commanders are loyal to him.

May the Almighty bless the efforts of our heroes and support them with victory.

Shoots Down Two Aircraft

NC0101162292 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1422 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] In retaliation for the aggressive practices of stupid Saddam's mercenaries against the sons of our rebellious Iraq, and in defense of our innocent citizens' dignity, the factions of our popular opposition are joining forces to stand up to Saddam's spiteful followers, who destroyed our country and desecrated our holy places. Our heroic mujahidin are continuing their courageous operations against Saddam, the destroyer of holy places, and his devious mercenaries to defend the land and holy places.

Our revolutionaries have carried out the following operations in the past few days:

1. Criminal [name indistinct] was justly punished;

2. The heroes of the popular uprising carried out just punishment against the criminal Muzhir Nayif Nadir, a first lieutenant in Saddam's criminal apparatus in (al-Tharwah), and the criminal Samir Siyaji Hamid, a captain in Saddam's security forces in Baghdad al-Jadidah; and,

3. Over the last week the defeated 'Aflaqite troops used aircraft to intimidate women and children in the area of [place-name indistinct]. Our heroic mujahidin confronted them and shot down two [word indistinct] planes, which crashed in the area.

Panic spread among Saddam's mercenaries as a result of this heroic operation.

8 Killed in Intelligence Building Bombing

NC3112170791 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1600 GMT 31 Dec 91

[Text] On 29 December an explosive charge went off in the intelligence building in Baghdad. Our correspondent reported that the blast left eight of the regime's agents dead.

Conscripts Born in 1974 Called for Military Service

JN3112205991 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1930 GMT 31 Dec 91

["Text" of statement issued by the General Recruitment Directorate on 31 December; read by announcer]

[Text] In accordance with the provisions of Revolution Command Council Decision 440 issued on 16 December 1991, which calls into military service those born in 1974, the General Recruitment Directorate calls on those born in 1974 to report to their recruitment offices as follows:

1. Those conscripts born in 1974 who should have attended elementary classes but who did not go to any school; who graduated from elementary classes but who did not attend any intermediate classes; or who are not in elementary or intermediate schools for any reason, should report to their recruitment offices between 2 January and 20 February 1992 for medical checkups. They will be issued the military service document and enrolled into compulsory service.

2. All those born in other years who have no excuses anymore should report to their recruitment offices during the period mentioned in paragraph 1.

3. Another date will be set for students in intermediate and preparatory classes, institutes, and colleges, who were born in the aforementioned years, to report to their recruitment offices for the purpose noted above.

4. Those to whom paragraph 1 applies should bring with them the following documents:

A. Civil Status Identity papers and an Iraqi citizenship certificate or a copy.

B. Six recent photos.

C. Profession or skill certificate.

5. Legal measures shall be taken against those who do not report to the recruitment offices in the period defined in paragraph 1 in accordance with the law.

[Signed] The staff major general, the director of general recruitment

Saddam Congratulates 'Arafat on Uprising

JN0201084992 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn has sent a congratulatory cable to his brother Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, on the anniversary of the start of the Palestinian revolution, the national day of the state of Palestine. The text follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

Your excellency brother Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee.

On the anniversary of the start of the Palestinian revolution, the national day of the fraternal state of Palestine, we are pleased to send to your excellency and to the brothers in the PLO and to the mujahid Palestinian Arab people our best greetings and sincerest brotherly feelings. We beseech God Almighty to grant our Palestinian people strength and fortitude to continue their heroic struggle against Zionist occupation and unjust suppression and to continue their legitimate struggle to achieve all their objectives of liberation, sovereignty, and independence; and that Arab Jerusalem, the first qiblah and the third holiest shrine, will return as an eternal capital for the independent state of Palestine.

With our best wishes of good health and happiness for you, and with my best brotherly regards.

[Signed] Your brother, Saddam Husayn

Republican Guards Chief Pledges Loyalty to Saddam

JN0201112792 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 2100 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Leader President Saddam Husayn has received further congratulatory cables on the new year. He received the following cable from the commander of the Republican Guards:

My lord, the leader president: I am greatly honored to extend to Your Excellency best wishes and warmest congratulations on the new Gregorian year and the 71st anniversary of the foundation of our valiant Army, the Army of heroism, sacrifice, and victory. The Army boasts a splendid and honorable national and pan-Arab record. Over the years, these men have registered heroic epics in the glorious Saddam's al-Qadisiyah and the Mother of Battles.

Mr. President: In my name, and on behalf of your men, the hero officers and soldiers of the Republican Guards, we pledge to you that we will sacrifice our blood to defend the soil of this dear homeland against all forms of agentry and conspiracy. The men will continue to be your brandished swords to confront the enemies so that the banner of God is great will continue to fly high in Iraq's skies. Success comes from God.

Intelligence Head Congratulates Saddam on New Year

JN0201092292 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Cable of congratulations on the new year from the head of the intelligence service to President Saddam Husayn]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

Sir, Staff Field Marshal Saddam Husayn, may God Almighty protect you.

A year has gone and a new one is arriving, and the Iraqi time remains as strong as ever. It is a firm principle pledge of faith, commitment, and responsibility. Under your blessed leadership, we are very strong while hoisting the banner of the sacred homeland, as are the mujahid builders who draw lessons from the heritage of our deep-rooted people and great nation. No misfortune can weaken the faithful strugglers and no calamity can keep them from following what is right. They overcome each ordeal with even greater determination, foresightedness, and strength. It is enough evidence for us that you are the established symbol for this great homeland and that the enemies' spades have been broken and returned to their chests. After all that has happened, is there any doubt that the wave of evil will recede and that the edifices of the good people will go higher and prosper?

Congratulating you on the new year, another year for jihad and construction, we affirm the pledge and emphasize the determination that your sons and soldiers in the intelligence services will continue and double their efforts to protect the homeland and the citizens, assert the supremacy of law, and respect human rights, in the expression of all the deep cultural meanings and values with which our genuine Arab and Islamic heritage is replete, a heritage that is the cradle of all laws and the spring of human dignity.

Peace be upon you and blessed be the coming days.

May God protect you, sir.

[Signed] The head of the intelligence service

Range of Autonomy Bid To 'Surprise' Palestinians

TA0201121792 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1100 GMT 2 Jan 92

[Report by Arye Haskell]

[Text] The Palestinian component of the joint delegation with Jordan left Amman this morning for Washington, in advance of the opening of the next round of the bilateral peace talks with Israel beginning a week from tomorrow. The Palestinian team has a new head: Dr. Sari Nusaybah of Bi'r Zayt University. Some see in this a new approach, which could put the talks back on track, after having been stuck in the State Department's corridors throughout the previous Washington round.

But more important from Israel's point of view is the proposal which the Israeli delegation will be taking with it. Prime Minister Shamir made clear in talks he had last week with the visiting Italian defense minister that Israel regards the talks with the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation as the key to the whole peace process, although the Inner Cabinet will have to give the seal of approval to the Israeli proposals in Washington to various negotiating teams that have been busy formulating suggestions.

The team that will meet with the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation thinks it will surprise the other side with the extent of the autonomy it will offer the residents of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. As one senior official put it, they may have difficulty in getting themselves sufficiently well-organized to cope with the challenges offered by Israel. At the same time, though, the Israeli negotiators will insist that what is being discussed is arrangements for a five-year interim period, not any discussions of an ultimate settlement which will have to wait for at least three years before they even begin. The Israelis will insist that those were the rules laid down at Camp David and originally rejected by the Palestinians. Now they—the Palestinians—have a second chance.

Levi Sends Baker Position Paper on Multilaterals

TA0201095092 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 2 Jan 92 p 2

[Report by Hemi Shalev]

[Text] The Arab parties to the bilateral negotiations with Israel presently tend to agree with Jerusalem's demand that the peace talks not continue in Washington, U.S. sources have reported to Israel.

Cabinet Secretary Elyaqim Rubinstein suggested that the Americans propose to the Arabs a way to choose a venue for the next round of talks whereby each party will hand the other side a list of acceptable locations and the receiving party will strike off those it cannot accept. The three Israeli delegations to the bilateral negotiations will leave for Washington Sunday night aboard a special Air Force jet after the Arabs have failed to respond to the Israeli offer to hold the talks in a staggered manner.

The next round of talks will open on Tuesday, and Jerusalem hopes that this would be the last round of talks in Washington. Reports from U.S. sources indicate that the Arabs, mainly the Palestinians, currently are not pleased with the continuation of the talks in Washington and that the Palestinians, in particular, are interested in a European venue, where a large number of PLO advisers could attend.

Yosi Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, yesterday conveyed a message to U.S. officials according to which Israel will hold only two rounds of talks in Washington. According to Ben-Aharon, Israel expects that after the end of second round of talks, they move to the area or near it.

At the same time, Foreign Minister David Levi sent a letter to his U.S. counterpart, James Baker, concerning the multilateral conference due to open in Moscow on 28 January. The letter includes an Israeli position paper regarding the desired composition for the multilateral talks and Israel's stands concerning several of the issues to be dealt with in the conference.

In his letter, Levi thanks Baker for the determined U.S. stand regarding the cancellation of the UN resolution equating Zionism with racism, and briefs his counterpart on Israel's recognition of the new Commonwealth that replaces the USSR.

Levi also notes the significance Israel attributes to the multilateral talks as a lever to the promotion of peace in our region, and calls for more coordination and consultation between Israel and the United States on the issue.

Israel disagrees with the U.S. stand that the multilateral negotiations should be broken down into two "baskets:" disarmament, and "human resources," with the second "basket" including issues such as refugees, regional development, water, and environment. Israel suggests that a broad forum convene to decide on a breakdown into subgroups, or alternatively, that it be decided in advance to set up seven working teams that would deal with these issues and an additional two: the Gulf of Aqaba and health.

Israel believes that the discussions of the water issue must not deal with the issue of the distribution of water resources because this is part of the bilateral discussions and a source of tension. Israel suggests that the water discussions focus on the development of water resources, such as desalination and other means.

Israel suggests that a working team devote itself to the issue of the Gulf of Aqaba-Elat, specifically to cooperation between the countries sharing the gulf: Egypt, Israel, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia.

Jerusalem officials said last night that Israel opposes the high profile the United States wants to give the disarmament issue, and wants to make it equal to all the other

regional issues. Israel is afraid that a forum would be set up to decide on disarmament which might work against Israel's strategic interests.

Arens: Civil Guard Planned for Territories

TA0101164292 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] The Civil Guard to be set up in large settlements in the territories will be no different from the Civil Guard inside the Green Line, Defense Minister Moshe Arens said today. It will operate only within the boundaries of the settlements. In the defense minister's view, there is no fear that the settlers will use the Civil Guard to harm Arabs. Udi Segal, our correspondent in the territories, reports:

[Segal] Defense Minister Moshe Arens reiterated that a minority of settlers in the territories are behind the acts of reprisal and attacks on Arab property. Arens said charges would be pressed against such offenders. Regarding the Civil Guard, Arens said such a body will be established in the large settlements in the territories and will be identical to the Civil Guard inside the Green Line.

[Begin recording] [Arens] We are about to set up the Civil Guard in the large settlements in which there are police stations. They will not be any different from the Civil Guard in Petah Tiqva and Binyamina.

[Segal] In other words, they will also have powers outside the settlements, along the main traffic arteries?

[Arens] They will be able to operate only inside the boundaries of the settlement and as part of the authority held by the police at the site. [end recording]

The defense minister said he does not fear that the Civil Guard will serve the settlers who volunteer for it as an instrument to harm Arabs. Arens made the remarks after a meeting with Jerusalem's Commercial Club, where he spoke on electoral reform. Arens, of course, explained why it should not be implemented.

Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek raised the issue of the Silwan settlement, saying the settlers were funded from monies meant for young couples and old people. The defense minister replied that the funding came from the settlers themselves and that the government had nothing to do with it.

New Settlement Formed After Death of Settler

TA0201053692 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0500 GMT 2 Jan 92

[Text] Several dozen residents of the Qatif bloc last night set up a settlement near Kfar Darom, following the murder of Doron Shorshan. Our correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld reports that six mobile homes were placed on the site, some 200 meters south of Kfar Darom, and the location was called the Doron neighborhood.

The settlers also started reconstructing the old train station between Kfar Darom and the Dayr al-Balah junction. Also, last night the fence of Kfar Darom was moved away from the settlement to expand its territory, and the residents claim that the Army agreed to that.

Last night, after the murder, the heads of the settlers met with the commander of the Central Command.

Jerusalem Mayor Joins Silwan Protest

TA2612141291 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 26 Dec 91 p A9

[Report by Yehuda Golan, Tzvi Lavi, and Yosi Levi]

[Excerpt] The EL'AD [Onward to the City of David] society plans to settle another 40 houses in Silwan soon. EL'AD spokesman Yiga'el Kan'an confirmed that a dispute has recently broken out among the society's leaders over when and how the houses will be occupied. Some of the houses have already been purchased, while others are still in the negotiating phase.

Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek yesterday expressed his stiff opposition to the EL'AD plan to build 200 housing units on the Silwan slope. Kollek yesterday headed a protest demonstration outside the prime minister's home in Jerusalem, which brought local and foreign journalists to the scene. Some 200 writers, poets, and other intellectuals expressed their support for the action.

Yo'el Adler, a member of the Temple Mount Faithful movement, shouted at them: "Traitors!" Tiron Pollak, a Kakh member, shouted: "Dirty traitors! My two sisters were murders by Arabs!" Two policemen prevented him from attacking Kollek.

In the afternoon, demonstrations by the right and left wings were held in Silwan ,and police separated them.

Attorney General Yosef Harish reprimanded Ari'el Sharon, construction and housing minister, claiming that Sharon's letter to the High Court of Justice was full of untruths, inaccuracies, and distortions. The letter, together with an affidavit by the minister, was sent in response to an EL'AD appeal against the minister, the police, and the police commissioner. Sharon's letter was sent to Attorney Dan Avi-Yitzhaq, the appellants' lawyer. [passage omitted]

[Barukh Me'iri and Yosi Levi report on the same page that "the Jerusalem police have been investigating charges that Silwan properties were declared to belong to absentee owners on the basis of false affidavits. One of the main suspects is Mahmud 'Amran al-Nabulsi."]

No Freedom for Hostages in 'Foreseeable Future'

NC0101133692 Paris AFP in English 1316 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Beirut, Jan 1 (AFP) - Two German aid workers are to remain in captivity for the foreseeable future in the absence of guarantees from Bonn on clemency for the Hammadi brothers imprisoned in Germany, a friend of the Hammadi family said Wednesday.

He added that the family had been under Iranian pressure to call for the release of Heinrich Struebig and Thomas Kemptner, kidnapped in southern Lebanon in May 1989 and held by the Mujahedeen for Freedom.

The group, which is close to the Hammadi family, is demanding the release of the brothers Muhammad and 'Abbas—imprisoned on terrorism charges—in exchange for the two Germans, the last two Western hostages in Lebanon. "The family has managed to resist Iranian pressure and has stressed the need for the sentences of Muhammad and 'Abbas to be reduced before the kidnappers free their captives," said the source, who asked not be named. But he said the family realizes it will not be able to secure the simultaneous release of the brothers and the two Germans. Bonn has repeatedly ruled out any such exchange.

"They know they will have to make the first gesture but they want ahead of time to receive firm guarantees of clemency from the German authorities, mainly that 'Abbas will be set free after the release of the Germans and that Muhammad's sentence will be reduced."

Mohammad is serving life term for the 1985 hijacking of a TWA airliner, during which a U.S. Navy diver was murdered in Beirut. 'Abbas was handed a 13-year sentence for possession of explosives and kidnapping. A third brother, Abd-al-Hadi, is an official with the pro-Iranian Hizballah movement and, according to the source, had wanted to satisfy Iran's desire to close the hostage file before the end of 1991.

"But he is not ready to throw away his card as long as the family can hold out against state pressure."

Two Approaches to Multilateral Talks Considered

NC3112174391 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 31 Dec 91

[Text] Informed diplomatic sources say that Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz met with the members of the Lebanese delegation to the Middle East peace talks for more than two hours on 28 December to discuss the country's position on the talks. The sources say that two different approaches were studied. The first urges boycotting Moscow's multilateral negotiations unless Washington's bilateral talks achieve some progress. The second states that Lebanon cannot reject an invitation from the United States and the Russian Federation to attend multilateral talks, particularly if the other Arab countries participating in the peace conference agree to attend.

The sources added that Suhayl Shammas, head of the Lebanese delegation to the talks, summoned the Russian ambassador and stressed what Foreign Minister Buwayz announced previously, namely that Lebanon wishes to see positive results in the bilateral negotiations before discussing participation in the multilateral talks. The Russian ambassador countered the Lebanese stance with these points: First, it was James Baker who specified the place and date of the talks after he met Russian President Boris Yeltsin during his recent visit to Moscow. Second, the Moscow meeting on 28 and 29 January is intended to organize the multilateral negotiations and not actually begin them. Third, waiting for positive results in the next round of bilateral talks is an overblown stance because the entangled Middle East issues that have accumulated over the years cannot be tackled in one or two negotiating sessions.

According to the sources, it is enough that the psychological barrier between the Arab and Israeli delegations has been broken. This is progress in itself. Additionally, all the concerned parties wish to continue the talks.

The diplomatic sources concluded with the comment that Lebanon is trying to use the multilateral talks as a form of pressure to achieve progress in the bilateral negotiations.

Buwayz Comments on Visit of Syria's Khaddam

NC0201062492 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 2 Jan 92

[Text] Syrian Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam is expected to visit Beirut in the next 48 hours. Informed sources say that the purpose of the visit is to convey new year's greetings and to clear up the differences between the government's leading figures.

Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz, however, has denied that Khaddam's visit is connected to the ongoing dispute between the presidency and the Chamber of Deputies. He stressed that the resumption of the bilateral negotiations in Washington, which are scheduled to start in five days, will be discussed with the Syrian vice president.

In an interview with Voice of the People, Buwayz said that today he will receive an official invitation to resume the peace talks in Washington from U.S. Ambassador Ryan Crocker. He noted that Lebanon has reservations about participating in the multilateral talks, adding that Lebanon will not take part in these talks if no progress is made in the bilateral negotiations.

Afghanistan

Najibollah Speaks on Cessation Agreement

LD0101214892 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Dari 1630 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Speech by Afghan President Najibollah on 1 January in Kabul on implementation of USSR-U.S. accord on cessation of arms supplies to Afghan parties—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate [previous sentence in Arabic]. Dear compatriots, sisters and brothers: Peace be with you. As you know, on 1 January 1992 the official implementation of the USSR-U.S. joint communique begins on ceasing the supply of weapons. The USSR-U.S. joint communique, which is issued in accordance with the resolutions of the 43d, 44th, 45th, and 46th UN General Assembly sessions and approving the UN secretary general's statement dated 21 May 1991, recognizes the fundamental right of the people of Afghanistan to determine their fate without foreign interference. Both countries have supported the UN secretary general's five-point statement, and have stressed the necessity of a political solution which will lead to an independent and nonaligned Afghanistan. The USSR and the United States agree that the cessation of military activities is a necessary condition for the implementation of the five-point statement of the UN secretary general.

In order to attain this goal they have decided to cease sending their weapons to all Afghan parties. The two countries also agree that subsequently a cease-fire and a cessation of weapons deliveries from all other sources should also come into effect. Therefore it is seen that ending the supply of weaponry by the USSR and America to all engaged Afghan sides constitutes a part of those countries' joint communique, which has a logical and inseparable relation and link with its other parts. The Republic of Afghanistan expects and hopes that the USSR, United States, and the United Nations will help the people of Afghanistan to attain a political and peaceful solution of the Afghan problem. Dear compatriots, the Republic of Afghanistan has presented many initiatives since the declaration of the national reconciliation policy aimed at ending the war and to ensure peace in the country, and has taken practical and postive steps in this respect. Surely you dear compatriots are aware of them. Fortunately the initiatives, measures, and viewpoint of the Republic of Afghanistan are fully in harmony with the new atmosphere of international relations and the UN secretary general's five-point statement, dated 21 May 1991. The recognition of the right of the Afghan people to form a government of their own, the necessity for a transitional period through intra-Afghan talks, the formation of a broad based and trusted government, and the holding of elections for a parliament constitute the major element of the UN secretary general's statement. The statement also emphasizes the need to halt hostilities during the transitional period and to halt weapons supplies by all sides to all parties. It is to be noted that the Republic of Afghanistan, a long time before the statement of the UN secretary general, had, in compliance with the national interests of Afghanistan, repeated the need for talks and understanding, the formation of a broad-based government with the participation of all or the majority of the forces, a transitional period, and referring to the people's opinion through free elections based on democracy.

These proposals have been properly presented at the conference of the nonaligned countries in Belgrade. We have consistently, prior to the statement of the UN secretary general as well as after it, expressed a readiness to the opposition for the commencement of intra-Afghan talks, and have repeatedly invited them to sit around the negotiation table. As far as it depends on the observation of a cease-fire and the cessation of delivering weapons to the warring Afghan sides, we have in this regard also put forward proposals on different occasions. Since the declaration of the policy of national reconciliation, we have proposed a cease-fire dozens of time, even on regional and local levels. Unfortunately these have not so far been accepted by the opposition. In addition, the cease-fires which have been unilaterally announced and observed by the Republic of Afghanistan have been condemned by some of the opposition forces.

The Republic of Afghanistan has several times proposed to the opposition not utilizing heavy weapons by both sides, and has even expressed its readiness to withdraw some types of weapons from the country and send them back to the producers of those weapons.

Dear compatriots, the Soviet-U.S. statement expressed hope concerning the cessation of supplies of weapons from all foreign sources. Notwithstanding the fact that so far the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and Saudi Arabia have not officially stated their commitment to the aforementioned statement, we hope that the efforts of the United Nations, in particular that of the United States and the Russian Federation, will be concentrated on this point so that the cessation of arms supplies from all sides to all sides will be implemented. Otherwise, if the supply of weapons from other sources to the opposition continues and the agreement of the two aforementioned powers remains within the limit of that two countries, in that case not only could an effective step not be taken toward the cessation of military activities, but bloodshed will continue in Afghanistan.

It is worth mentioning that some responsible Pakistani authorities have approved in principle the cessation of arms supplies to warring Afghan sides. They see it as being dependent, however, on receiving guarantees from those who issued the joint statement. The Republic of Afghanistan, which previously proposed the creation of a mechanism controlling and preventing the introduction of weapons to Afghanistan, once again renews its proposal so that as a result of creating such a mechanism, not only the supply of weapons will be checked, but by simultaneously utilizing the same mechanism, the prevention of narcotics and smuggling could also be

effected. In that case the people of Afghanistan, who have suffered great human and material losses as a result of the war, as well as in international opinion, will (?question) the Soviet-U.S. accord as the guarantors of the Geneva Accords, as well as the signatories of the joint declaration concerning the cessation of arms deliveries.

The question of Afghanistan, which has been considered as a consequence of the period of the cold war and military confrontation between superpowers, should be solved realistically and peacefully in line with the five-point statement of the UN secretary general and the joint statement of the United States and the Soviet Union. [passage indistinct]

The Republic of Afghanistan displayed its readiness last year to search for ways and methods to consolidate relations on the road to developing mutual cooperation and essentially new [word indistinct] with our neighbors and gave and continues to give preference to being economic partners with them rather than military adversaries. Our region has great economic, commercial, and transit possibilities. An effective utilization of these possibilities depends on giving up policies and positions of the past—ending military confrontation, hostility, and contempt against each other—and their transfer to completely new relations stemming from the development of mutual political, economic, and cultural cooperation.

The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan is a pioneer on this road and is hoping that our neighbors will also adopt their stance toward the interests of the people in our region and in perceiving the requirements and the need for the consolidation of relations with Afghanistan in the framework of an entirely new relationship. The Republic of Afghanistan, as an active member, is ready for cooperation with all possible means within the framework of regional cooperation in order to advance economic and cultural development. The presence of a free, independent, and stable Afghanistan with national sovereignty and territorial integrity does not threaten the stability and security of any country or the region, but on the contrary assists in the maintenance of stability and security in the region, and in preparing the ground for satisfactory socio-economic and cultural relations with its neighbors.

Dear compatriots, during the new year of 1992, which coincides with the holding of the UN Secretary General position by His Excellency B. Ghali, I wish to see 1992 as the year of peace. I express hope for the success of the new UN secretary general in the consolidation of international peace and acceleration of the political and peaceful solution of the issue of Afghanistan. On behalf of the people of Afghanistan I would like to express appreciation to His Excellency Javier Perez de Cuellar, who, during his term of office as UN secretary general, made a comprehensive effort to bring Afghans closer in order to carry out intra-Afghan talks, as well as the publication of his excellency's five-point statement which lays down a good foundation for the political and peaceful solution of the issue of Afghanistan. The Afghans believe that the UN's goodwill efforts, as well as measures by the peace-loving forces in Afghanistan, will finally produce a result and peace will be secured in their country.

We are optimistic for the future; some external aspects of the issue of Afghanistan, such as assisting and accelerating factors for the restoration of peace in the country, have prepared the ground for the commencement of dialogue and intra-Afghan talks. Now the internal factors as a major and fundamental factor should be included in the process of peace, and this must consider and assess the way of a political and peaceful solution to the country's issue by talks and dialogue with the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan. The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan earnestly believes that peace in the country can only be secured by abandoning hostility between the political forces and by joint efforts toward salvaging the country and our compatriots. War has no winner or loser, and clashes between forces cannot become a permanent feature.

Despite the preparation of ground for the start of intra-Afghan talks, and despite the publication of the UN secretary general's five-point plan, and the joint U.S.-Soviet statement on a political solution of the issue of Afghanistan, unfortunately fighting is still going on in some regions of the country. Some of the opposition armed groups, as has been seen in Kabul and in some provinces, have embarked on launching missiles and have bereaved some of our compatriots.

Some international media, commenting on the launching of missiles on the cities and against our persecuted people, allege that the opposition forces are marking the 12th anniversary of the arrival of the Soviet units in Afghanistan. Dear compatriots; there have been no Soviet units in our country for the past three years; the old Soviet Union no longer exists. How can they mark this? By killing their brothers or sons or children; by firing missiles on the innocent and poor people, so that the cry of children, widows, and old people reaches the heaven. They themselves go to Moscow, although in principle we have not shown our opposition to the dialogue by various sides. They sit together in Moscow and and ask for the establishment of an Islamic government to be created for them in Afghanistan, and they themselves mark the death of their compatriots allegedly by marking the anniversary of the arrival or occupation of Afghanistan by the Soviet military forces. Celebration of what? Which courage or which bravery [words indistinct] and say that I mark the arrival of Soviet troops in Afghanistan. I let the people of Afghanistan judge.

Almighty God's wisdom is hidden in everything. Of course we have considerable losses and damages as a result of their actions. We are all bereaved together with the people and families in our country. However, any mishap that occurs is a test or standard for judgment by the people of Afghanistan. What does this act mean? In whose interest is it? [word indistinct] Yes, if the question

is linked with an intellegence agency or a network and has no freedom of action against one's country, people, against their ideals and wishes, and that agency orders rockets to be fired on the poor and miserable. Because one is a slave and sold off, one carries out that act. Then that is a different question. If they themselves do not admit it, the people of Afghanistan will pass this judgment on them.

While they consider themselves to be sharing the sorrow of their compatriots, we once again call on the opposition to refrain from being an instrument in the hand of the aliens and foreigners, and not to play with the lives of their compatriots. Being an aliens' instrument and destroying one's own home do not bring pride. The Afghans should more than ever know that the continuation of war entails nothing but the destruction and decimation of the Afghan people. A war and confrontation on which foreigners pour oil is not the choice of the people of Afghanistan. The people of Afghaistan want peace. It is the duty of all of us to answer, united and responsibly, through any possibility, this demand of the whole Afghan nation.

I am fully confident that realistic Afghans, wherever they live, will answer this serious and vital demand of the people in a positive and becoming way. God willing the peace which we all await will be restored. Success comes from God.

Bangladesh

Talks Held With Burma on Border Incident

BK0101023892 Dhaka Radio Bangladesh Network in English 0130 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] The flag meeting between Bangladesh and Myanmar [Burma] in an attempt to resolve the problems caused by the attack on the BDR [Bangladesh Rifles] outpost at Rezupara was held at Maung Daw yesterday. The Bangladesh side was led by Major M.A. Khaliq, battalion commander of BDR; while the Myanmar side was represented by [word indistinct] Commander Lieutenant Colonel Yun Yie. The talks were held in a friendly and cordial atmosphere.

A Foreign Office spokesman said in Dhaka yesterday that the Myanmar side acknowledged that the raid on Rezupara outpost was carried out by mistake when the Myanmar troops were in hot pursuit of Myanmar insurgents. The Myanmar side stated in the meeting that the Myanmar troops crossed into Rezupara border outpost inside Bangladesh in the belief that the border outpost was an insurgent camp. They assured the Bangladesh side at the talks that they would return all the weapons and ammunition taken from Rezupara BDR outpost on 21 December and requested the BDR for a list of all such items to enable them to do the needful in this regard.

The Foreign Office spokesman said the Myanmar side have assured the Bangladesh side at the talks that they would open the Bangladesh-Myanmar border soon. Bangladesh has requested to Myanmar (?to hold) next flag meeting within seven days. The Myanmar side said they would respond to the proposal after necessary consultations with their government.

India

Lists of Nuclear Sites Exchanged With Pakistan

BK0101085292 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0830 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] India and Pakistan today exchanged the lists of nuclear installations and facilities in their countries. This was in pursuance to the agreement signed in December 1988 on prohibition of attack against each other's nuclear installations and facilities. The foreign secretary, Mr. J.N. Dixit, handed over the Indian list to Pakistan's high commissioner in New Delhi, while his Pakistani counterpart, Mr. Shaharyar Khan, gave Pakistan's list of nuclear installations and facilities to India's acting high commissioner in Islamabad.

The agreement signed three years back had technically come into effect from January last year when the instruments of ratification of the agreement had been signed. New Delhi was prepared to exchange the list of nuclear installations and facilities to make the agreement meaningful at that time itself while Islamabad did not agree at that time for exchanging the list.

Council Supports Normalcy in Punjab, Kashmir

BK0101033692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] The National Integration Council has appealed to all political parties, organizations, and people to support the government's efforts in restoring normalcy in Jammu and Kashmir and Punjab. The council, in a resolution adopted unanimously after daylong deliberations in New Delhi yesterday, appealed to all concerned to refrain from saying or doing anything which would undermine the normalization process. The resolution deplored the active support given to the terrorist and secessionist organizations by forces from across the border. It noted with satisfaction that despite provocations, the basic fabric of communal harmony had remained intact in both the states. The council resolved to meet firmly the threat to national unity and integration from the extremists and anti-national forces.

Welcoming the government's decision to hold elections in Punjab next month, the council appealed to all political parties to defeat the efforts of terrorists to disrupt the polls. It appreciated the steps taken by the center to involve the people of Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir in development and other activities.

Iran

First Trading Post Opened With Turkmenistan

LD0101211492 Tehran IRNA in English 1452 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Sari (Mazandaran Province), Jan. 1, IRNA—A consignment of 50 tons of citrus fruits was exported to Turkmenistan Republic via Pol-e border crossing Tuesday, the first over the past 70 years after the fall of the former Soviet Union.

The Pol-e border point is located at "Inche Broun" of Gonbad in this province. It is the best commercial route to the Republic of Turkmenistan.

The export of the fruits is in accord with an agreement between Turkmenistan and Iran's "Etka" company on barter for cement, motor cycle, glass, etc. from the newly independent republic.

The amount of the fruits to be sent to Turkmenistan is 2,000 tons which will be delivered gradually via the Pol-e border.

The border checkpoint can also link Iran to other Muslim republics in Central Asia.

Vice President Receives Japanese Ambassador

LD0101212792 Tehran IRNA in English 1437 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 1, IRNA—Japan's ambassador to Tehran Tsuneo Oyake here Wednesday visited vice-president and head of the Plan and Budget Organization, Mas'ud Roghani Zanjani and reviewed Tehran-Tokyo relations with him. Zanjani said that Iran is determined to promote her economy and industrial development by building healthy relations with other countries. He also offered the Japanese ambassador a summary account of the functions of his organization. Oyake expressed hope for steadily growing relations between his country and Iran.

Khamene'i Welcomes Algerian Vote for Islam

LD0101180292 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1530 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Excerpts] After arriving in the martyr-nurturing city of Bushehr today, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the great leader of the Islamic revolution, addressed a great gathering of the people of the city at Martyr Beheshti Stadium. Responding to the expression of good wishes by the people of the region, he stressed the need to utilize the natural resources of Bushehr Province in an effort to remove the deprivations of the people of that region. [passage omitted]

Continuing his remarks, the great leader said: The vote which the people of Algeria cast for Islam and the love which the people of Sudan showed to Islam and the officials of the Islamic Republic of Iran are great events that indicate the growth and expansion of Islam and its influence on the very life of the nations. They prove the righteousness of the Islamic claim of the resisting and pioneering Iranian nation. Perseverence in and implementation of Islamic tenets will bring in its wake the interest of this world as well as the other world for the Islamic nations, especially the proud Iranian nation forcing the world to respect and praise them.

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i said the expression of Islamic faith by the Muslim nations of Algeria and Sudan is pleasant for Muslims, especially for the Iranian nation. He said Islam's resistance against intimidation by the world powers is in itself proof of the hostility of those powers to Islam. Anywhere Islam assumes sovereignty, there will be no room for America and world bullies.

Since the Algerian nation has chosen Islam and the Islamic government, political circles connected with arrogance and Zionist mass media have brazenly raised a hue and cry about the trampling of democracy in Algeria; and this when the Muslim people of that country have voted for Islam in the clearest form of democracy. After the Algerian people said yes to Islam, America and her agents, who no longer find a place for themselves in that country have made the Muslim Algerian nation the object of all sorts of accusation and slander. But the arrogant powers will get nowhere with such tricks. [passage omitted]

The people's marches to express hatred for enemies and in support of government officials, as well as the presence of the tremendous popular forces in the arenas of the imposed war—which is the greatest experience of this country—along with the mutual love between the people and the officials, are clear proof of the existence of democracy, freedom, and respect for the people's vote. And the global poisoned propaganda against the Islamic government depicts the enmity of the bullying powers toward Islam, revolution, and Islamic sovereignty. His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, citing God's promises regarding the impotence of the enemies of Islam in confronting the conscious and brave movement of the nations, graciously said: Despite the enemies, Islamic Iran has come nearer to her Islamic objectives and will continue her path with all might and nothing will hinder the Muslim nation of Iran in its pursuit of its divine objectives. [passage omitted]

Pakistan

Islamabad Reports Exchange of Nuclear Site Lists

BK0101113292 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Pakistan and India today exchanged lists of their nuclear installations and facilities as provided under the Pakistan-India agreement on the prohibition of attack against each other's nuclear installations and facilities in

Islamabad today. The exchange of lists fulfilled the legal obligations on the two sides regarding exchange of such lists by today.

PRC Nuclear Pact Said Proof of Friendship

BK0101132892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1300 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman has said the signing of the agreement in Beijing for the supply of a 300-megawatt nuclear power plant by China to Pakistan attests the time-tested and ever-growing friendship between the two countries. Briefing newsmen in Islamabad today, he particularly referred to the presence of the Chinese premier, Mr. Li Peng, at the signing which he said reflected the importance China attaches to its friendship with Pakistan.

Sharif on Nuclear Issue, Ties With India

BK0201094592 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 2 Jan 92

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Nawaz Sharif has said that his proposal for ending the nuclear arms race in South Asia will reinforce efforts for nuclear nonproliferation at the global level. In an interview with an INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE correspondent during his recent visit to Singapore, he said India had initially rejected the proposal for a discussion with Pakistan, China, and the United States in this regard, but New Delhi has indicated recently that it will reconsider its stand. Pakistan has stated over and over again that it will agree to any regional, international, or global mechanism for inspection of nuclear installations which is nondiscriminatory and which treats India and Pakistan on an equitable basis.

The prime minister declared that Pakistan is not manufacturing an atom bomb. Pakistan has given categorical and concrete assurances that despite possessing a nuclear capability, it will not manufacture an atom bomb.

Answering a question, the prime minister said all disputes between India and Pakistan—including the Kashmir issue, which is of utmost importance to Islamabad—should be resolved peacefully through negotiations. Nawaz Sharif said the people of occupied Kashmir have been waging a struggle on their own against the Indian occupation for the past three years. The fact that the current movement was launched by the Kashmiri people themselves is borne out by India's own confession that only three percent of the Kashmiris had cast their votes in the last elections.

Answering a question about the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, the prime minister said what is basically needed is the political will to resolve political problems in order to enable the member-countries to accelerate the pace of economic cooperation.

In reply to yet another question, Nawaz Sharif said Pakistan welcomes the easing of tension between China and India, provided it does not affect China's ties with any other country.

Spokesman Rejects Rao Allegation of Interference

BK0101154892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 1 Jan 92

[Text] Pakistan has again said in categorical terms that Pakistan has not intervened in the internal affairs of India, nor does it have any intention to do so. Commenting on Indian Prime Minister Narasimha Rao's reported statement at the National Integration Council's inaugural session in New Delhi yesterday, a spokesman of the Pakistani Foreign Office expressed amazement over the allegation that Pakistan is trying to disrupt the elections in Indian Punjab. The statement also accused of interference from across the border and made false allegations of abetting terrorism against India and waging a proxy war. The spokesman said that the whole world considers Jammu and Kashmir a disputed territory and the Kashmiri people have indigenously launched a struggle there to secure their right to self-determination. He said that India has launched state terrorism against the innocent Kashmiri people. In contrast, Pakistan wants to see a peaceful settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir issue through negotiations. The spokesman reiterated that Pakistan will continue to extend moral, political, and diplomatic support to the Kashmiri people.